

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT M 00462 041346Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 DLOS-09 EB-08
COME-00 L-03 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 OES-07
PA-01 ICA-11 /116 W
-----101520 050513Z /223

R 040250Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3167
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY SUVA
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
USMISSION GENEVA
CINCPAC HONOLULU
CINCPACREP GUAM/TTPI

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT MORESBY 0462

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

CINCPAC REP GUAM/TTPI PASS STATUS LNO

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EFIS XP XU PP
SUBJ: AUSTRALIAN HICOM CRTICIZES US FISHERIES AGENCY

1. AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER CRITCHLEY RAISED SUBJECT
OF US FISHERIES POLICY WITH ME AT SOCIAL GATHERING ON
APRIL 1. HE SAID USG WAS ALL WRONG IN ITS APPROACH TO
HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES AND WAS ISOLATED IN ITS FISHERIES
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POLICY. HE SAID NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY OVER TUNA WAS
OBVIOUSLY GOING TO BE ESTABLISHED. HE THEN OBSERVED THAT
THE USG WAS ONLY INTERESTED IN ADVANCING THE INTERESTS
OF ITS TUNA FLEET AND WAS INDIFFERENT TO THE
CONSERVATION ASPECTS OF FISHING.

2. IN RESPONSE I POINTED OUT THAT EXISTING LEGISLATION

MADE US INTEREST IN CONSERVATION VERY CLEAR. FURTHER, I SAID, AS TUNA, A CHEAP PROTEIN, IS AN IMPORTANT CLEMENT IN THE US DIET WE MUST BE CONCERNED ABOUT THE CONSERVATION ASPECTS. I TOLD HIM THAT US CONSUMERS EAT HALF OF THE WORLD'S TUNA CATCH AND HENCE WE ARE VERY CONCERNED ABOUT FUTURE SUPPLIES.

3. COMMENT: BOTH PETER WILSON AND GEOFFREY DABB IN GPNG HAVE REPEATEDLY SAID THAT THE US IS ISOLATED IN ITS FISHERIES POLICY. THEY SAY THAT ONLY THE US, WESTERN SAMOA AND POSSIBLY ONE OR TWO OTHER SMALL PACIFIC COUNTRIES WANT TO SEE INTERNATIONAL CONTROL OF TUNA AND THAT ALL THE OTHERS IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC AGREE WITH PNG. IF CRITCHLEY IS SAYING TO THE GPNG WHAT HE SAID TO ME (AND I ASSUME HE IS), THIS WOULD CONSIDERABLY REINFORCE THE GPNG'S VIEWS.

4. CRITCHLEY NORMALLY MAKES IT CLEAR THAT HE IS EXPRESSING A PERSONAL VIEW RATHER THAN A GOA VIEW, AND HE DID NOT DO SO IN THIS INSTANCE. AUSTRALIAN HICOM OFFICERS HAVE BEEN A BIT CAGEY IN TALKING FISHERIES MATTERS WITH US DURING PAST FEW MONTHS. BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER THIS REPRESENTS GOA VIEWS. OLMSTED

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Message Attributes

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